

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

HOSTETTLER, John (Republican)
Representative, 8th District, Indiana
Elected 1994 to the 104th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: Evansville, Indiana - 19 July 1961
Home: Wadesville, Indiana
Marital Status: Married (Elizabeth) - 4 children
Religion: General Baptist
Education: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, BSME, 1983
Military: None
Profession: Mechanical engineer

Political: No previous political experience. Defeated incumbent Rep Frank McCloskey (D) in the 1994 general election with 52% of the vote. Reelected in 2000 with 53% of the vote and in 2002 with 51%.

Rep Hostettler is considered a fiscal conservative. Signed the GOP Contract With America; disagreed, however, with two of its issues -- congressional term limits, which he said should be resolved at the local level, and the balanced-budget amendment. Has said a strong national defense is government's top priority. Opposes gun control, abortion and government intervention in health care and is concerned about military preparedness and the furtherance of U.S. technological superiority.

In the House, led the conservative charge to eliminate funds for the AmeriCorps, the national service program. During House floor debate on the FY96 DoD authorization, he opposed an amdt to reduce funds for Ballistic Missile Defense. During debate on the FY97 DoD authorization, opposed an amdt to remove the ban on abortions in military hospitals overseas. In FY99 DoD Auth House Report, joined nine others with additional view expressing concern about damage to national security by military technology transfer with People's Republic of China. (HRpt 105-532, 12May98)

In the 106th Congress, during debate on the FY00 budget resolution reviewed defense readiness shortfalls noting that the Administration proposed a defense spending as much as \$70 billion below the Service Chiefs' stated requirements to maintain national security. (CR, 25Mar99) Introduced H.R. 1700, the National Missile Defense Expediency Act of 1999 which would waive the required completion of initial operational test and evaluation of a major defense system before initial procurement with respect to procurement for a national missile defense system. (CR, 5May99)

In the 107th Congress, submitted an amendment (w/Rep Langevin) to the DOD Auth bill that would not require female soldiers to wear an Abaya (Muslim garb) while in a Muslim country. Voted for a military pay raise, increased missile defense testing, and a number of critical projects for the Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center. Supported the President's decision to withdraw from the ABM Treaty. Said the US remains vulnerable to missile attack, especially in light of other nations selling missile technology to various "rogue" countries. Supported arming pilots on commercial airlines. Asked, "Does it not seem reasonable to insert one more preventive step before an F-16 launches a missile at a passenger plane?"

Additional: Performance engineer with Southern Indiana Gas & Electric, 1985-94. Crane Naval Weapons Center in his district.

AF Bases: None

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES -- Subcs Readiness; Projection Forces;

JUDICIARY